AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 48 and cancel claims 29-36, 38-42, 50, 51, and 58 without prejudice or disclaimer. The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Complete listing of claims

Claims 1-24 (Cancelled)

25. (Previously presented) A fibrin adhesive granulate comprising granulate pellets with a particle size in the range from approximately 50 µm to approximately 1000 µm, wherein said granulate pellets comprise thrombin, Factor XIII, fibrinogen, and a calcium salt.

26. (Previously presented) The fibrin adhesive granulate in accordance with claim 25, wherein the granulate pellets have a particle size in the range from approximately 100 µm to approximately 200 µm.

27. (Previously presented) The fibrin adhesive granulate in accordance with claim 25, wherein said granulate pellets further comprise one or more substances chosen from albumin, fibronectin, and other substances that promote wound healing.

28. (Previously presented) The fibrin adhesive granulate in accordance with claim 26, wherein said granulate pellets further comprise one or more

substances chosen from albumin, fibronectin, and other substances that promote wound healing.

Claims 29-36 (Cancelled)

37. (Previously presented) A preparation comprising a fibrin adhesive granulate as claimed in any one of claims 25 or 27.

Claims 38-42 (Cancelled)

43. (Previously presented) A method for the preparation of a fibrin adhesive granulate as claimed in claim 25 comprising,
suspending the components of the fibrin adhesive in an organic solvent, and spray-drying said suspension to a granulate of particle size in the range from approximately 50 µm to approximately 1000 µm.

44. (Previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 43, wherein the particle size of the granulate is in the range from approximately 100 µm to approximately 200 µm.

45. (Previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 43, wherein the suspension is spray-dried onto a support medium.

46. (Previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 44, wherein the suspension is spray-dried onto a support medium.

47. (Previously presented) A method for the preparation of a fibrin adhesive granulate as claimed in claim 25, comprising
preparing a fibrinogen granulate, and
spraying an organic solvent comprising thrombin onto said fibrinogen granulate.

48. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 47, wherein a calcium salt is added to the fibrinogen granulate, to the thrombin ~~solution~~suspension, or to both the fibrinogen granulate and the thrombin ~~solution~~suspension.

49. (Previously presented) A method for the preparation of a fibrin adhesive granulate as claimed in claim 25, comprising
preparing separate fibrinogen and thrombin granulates, and
mixing the fibrinogen granulates with the thrombin granulates,
wherein both types of granulates have a particle size in the range from approximately 50 µm to approximately 1000 µm.

Claims 51 and 52 (Cancelled)

52. (Previously presented) A method for preparing a preparation comprising adding one or more biological, vegetable or synthetic active substances to the fibrin adhesive granulate as claimed in claim 25.

53. (Previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 52, wherein said one or more biological, vegetable or synthetic active substances are chosen from immunoglobulins, chemotherapeutics and antibiotics.

54. (Previously presented) A method for achieving hemostasis comprising applying a fibrin adhesive preparation to an area in need thereof, wherein the fibrin adhesive preparation comprises a fibrin adhesive granulate as claimed in claim 25.

55. (Previously presented) A method for healing a wound in surgery comprising applying a fibrin adhesive preparation to an area in need thereof, wherein the fibrin adhesive preparation comprises a fibrin adhesive granulate as claimed in claim 25.

56. (Previously presented) A method for effecting tissue therapy comprising applying a fibrin adhesive preparation to an area in need thereof, wherein the fibrin adhesive preparation comprises a fibrin adhesive granulate as claimed in claim 25.

57. (Previously presented) A method for preparing a support medium for one or more biological, vegetable or synthetic factors comprising mixing said one or more biological, vegetable or synthetic factors with a fibrin adhesive preparation, wherein the fibrin adhesive preparation comprises a fibrin adhesive granulate as claimed in claim 25.

Claims 58 (Cancelled)

59. (Previously presented) A fibrin tissue adhesive formulation containing a mixture of thrombin, and fibrinogen with factor XIII in flowable solid granules, said mixture prepared by:

(a) providing solutions or suspensions of the thrombin, and the fibrinogen with factor XIII;

(b) drying the solutions in a fluidized bed apparatus; and

(c) forming the flowable solid granules with a particle size of approximately 50-1000 µm.

60. (Previously presented) The fibrin tissue adhesive formulation of claim 59, wherein the thrombin and fibrinogen granules have been separately dried.

61. (Previously presented) The fibrin tissue adhesive formulation of claim 59, wherein the thrombin and/or fibrinogen granules have a support medium as carrier.

62. (Previously presented) The fibrin tissue adhesive formulation of claim 61, wherein the support medium is selected from sugars, sugar alcohols, proteins, and mixtures thereof.

63. (Previously presented) A fibrin tissue adhesive formulation containing a mixture of thrombin, and fibrinogen with factor XIII in flowable solid granules, said mixture prepared by:

(a) providing solutions or suspensions of the thrombin, and the fibrinogen with factor XIII;

(b) drying the solutions in a fluidized bed apparatus; and

(c) forming the flowable solid granules with a particle size of 50-1000 μm; wherein the granules are mixed granules incorporating the fibrinogen in an inner core and the thrombin in an outer layer thereon.

64. (Previously presented) A fibrin tissue adhesive formulation containing a mixture of thrombin, and fibrinogen with factor XIII in flowable solid granules, said mixture prepared by:

(a) providing solutions or suspensions of the thrombin, and the fibrinogen with factor XIII;

(b) drying the solutions in a fluidized bed apparatus; and

(c) forming the flowable solid granules with a particle size of 50-1000 µm; wherein the mixed granules comprise a carrier core, a fibrinogen layer on the core and an outer thrombin layer.

65. (Previously presented) The fibrin tissue adhesive formulation of claim 59, wherein the ratio of thrombin to fibrinogen with factor XIII is 1:100 to 1:1000.

Claim 66 (Cancelled)

67. (Previously presented) The fibrin tissue adhesive formulation of claim 59, wherein the grain diameter of the granules is 100-200 µm.

68. (Previously presented) The fibrin tissue adhesive formulation of claim 59, wherein the granules are covered with an outer barrier layer.

69. (Previously presented) The fibrin tissue adhesive formulation of claim 59, wherein the solution or suspension contains a calcium salt.

70. (Previously presented) A process for producing a fibrin tissue adhesive formulation containing a mixture of thrombin, and fibrinogen with factor XIII in flowable solid granules, which comprises

(a) providing solutions or suspensions of the thrombin, and the fibrinogen with factor XIII;

(b) drying the solutions in a fluidized bed apparatus; and

(c) forming the flowable solid granules, said granules having a particle size of 50-1000 µm.

71. (Previously presented) The process of claim 70, wherein:

(a) a fibrinogen concentrate with factor XIII is sprayed into the fluidized bed apparatus from aqueous solution, dried and isolated;

(b) a thrombin concentrate is sprayed into the fluidized bed apparatus from aqueous solution, dried and isolated; and

(c) the granules of fibrinogen and thrombin thus produced are mixed.

72. (Previously presented) The process for producing a fibrin tissue adhesive formulation of claim 70, wherein;

(a) fibrinogen concentrate is sprayed into the fluidized bed apparatus from aqueous solution and dried; and

(b) thrombin is sprayed onto the dried granules from an organic suspension.

73. (Previously presented) The process for producing a fibrin tissue adhesive formulation of claim 70, wherein the solutions or suspensions are sprayed onto a carrier material.

I. Status of the claims

Claims 25-28, 37, 43-49, 52-57, 59-65 and 67-73 are pending in this application after entry of this amendment. Claim 48 has been amended to more clearly define the subject matter of the invention. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, at page 6, ¶ 2 of the specification ("[a] fine thrombin suspension in an organic solvent is sprayed onto said fibrinogen granulate"). Allowed claims 29-36, 38-42, 50, 51, and 58 have been cancelled in this Amendment without prejudice or disclaimer because they are drawn to subject matter that does not interfere with the claims in U.S. Patent No. 6,596,318, with which Applicant is seeking an interference. Applicant will be filing a continuation application directed to the currently-cancelled subject matter in due time.

This amendment is being filed concurrently with a Response to Office Communication and Suggestion of Interference Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.202, where Applicant respectfully requests that the Office declare an interference between the present application and U.S. Patent No. 6,596,318.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: Reg. No. 41,469
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